2024
OPTIMIST

OPTIMIST

VOL. 110

MALCOLM X SHABAZZ HIGH SCHOOL
80 JOHNSON AVENUE
NEWARK , NJ 07108

PRINCIPAL

Dear Graduates of the Class of 2024,

Congratulations on reaching this incredible milestone! As you step into the next chapter of your journey, remember the mantra that has guided you through your time at Malcolm X Shabazz High School:

"Good, better, best. Never let it rest. Until your Good is your better, And your Better is your BEST!"

You have faced challenges with courage, grown in ways you never imagined, and made your mark on this school. Now, as you move forward, carry this spirit of relentless improvement with you. Strive for excellence in all you do, and never settle for anything less than your very best.

The world is waiting for the brilliance that only you can bring. Keep pushing forward, stay true to your dreams, and know that you are always part of the Shabazz family.

Wishing you all the success in the world!

Dr. Atiba Buckman, Principal.

Dear Class of 2024,

Congratulations on your graduation! It has been an honor to join your journey this year as your Senior Class Administrator. Although our time together was short, I've witnessed your remarkable resilience, courage, and growth.

As you step into the world beyond Malcolm X Shabazz, remember this: Life will present you with challenges, and the unknown can be intimidating. But don't let fear hold you back. Embrace the uncertainties with confidence, knowing that each step forward is an opportunity to learn, grow, and become the best version of yourself.

Loving yourself is the foundation for all that you will achieve. Believe in your worth, celebrate your uniqueness, and let that self-love guide your decisions and actions. And as you navigate this world, remember to look out for one another. The strength of our community lies in our compassion and care for each other.

You have the power to make a difference, not just for yourselves, but for those around you. Keep striving for greatness, support one another, and never forget the lessons you've learned here.

Wishing you all a future filled with courage, love, and success.

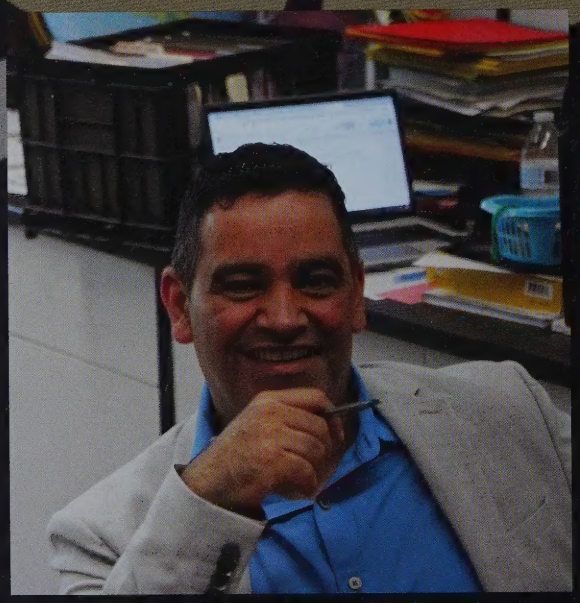
Mr. Steven Lawrence,Vice Principal.

VICE PRINCIPAL

2024 ADMINISTRATORS

REBECCA WILM
DC of Special Education

NOEL COLON
Athletic Director

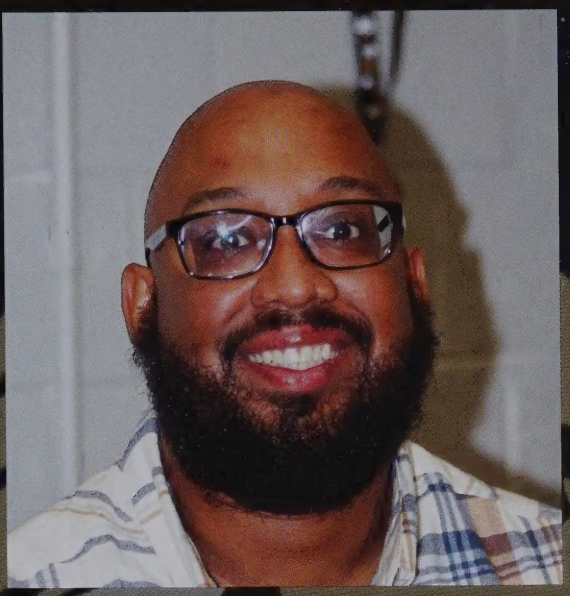


AZIZ KENZ
DC of Mathematics

TARA FOXWORTH
DC of English

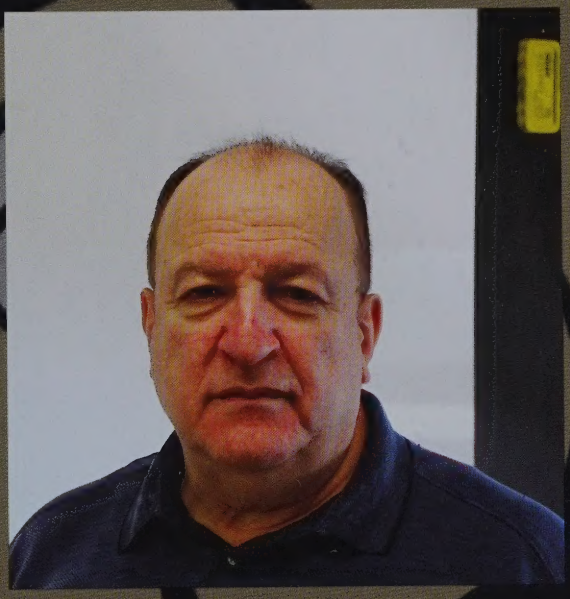
2024 FACULTY & STAFF

MS. HUGHES



MR. ORTIZ

MS. BERRY



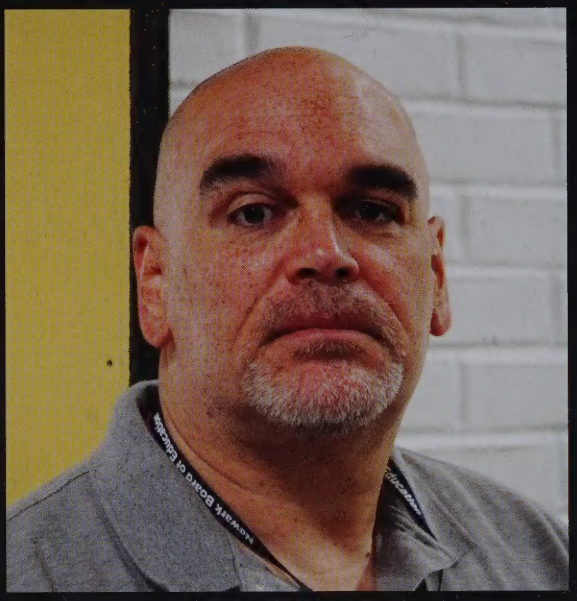
MR. LADJ

MS. LOUIS

MR. FERREIRO

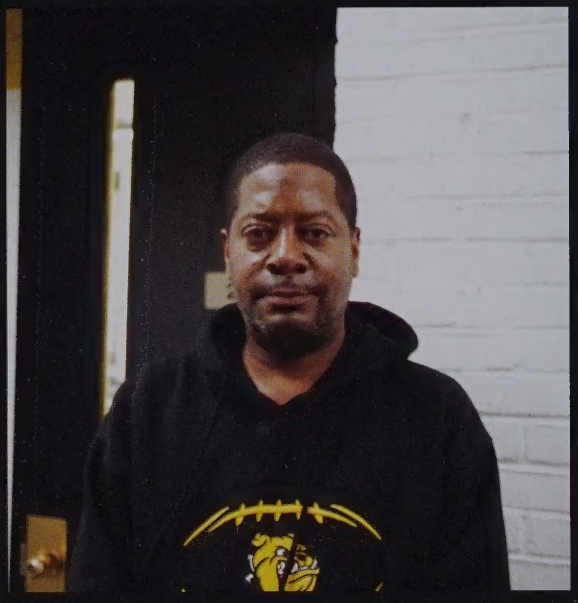
2024 FACULTY & STAFF

MS. VASSALLO



MR. TWEED

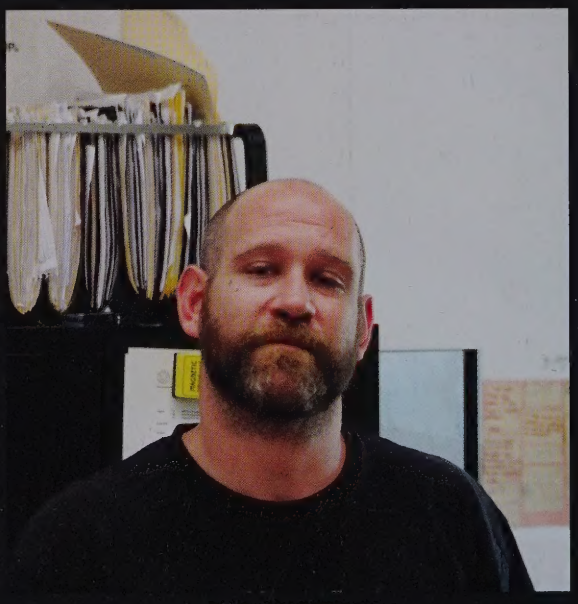
MS. HILL



MR.HIGH

How does our race, culture, and upbringing shape who we are and who we become?
To what extent do we have control of our identities and peoples' perceptions of us?

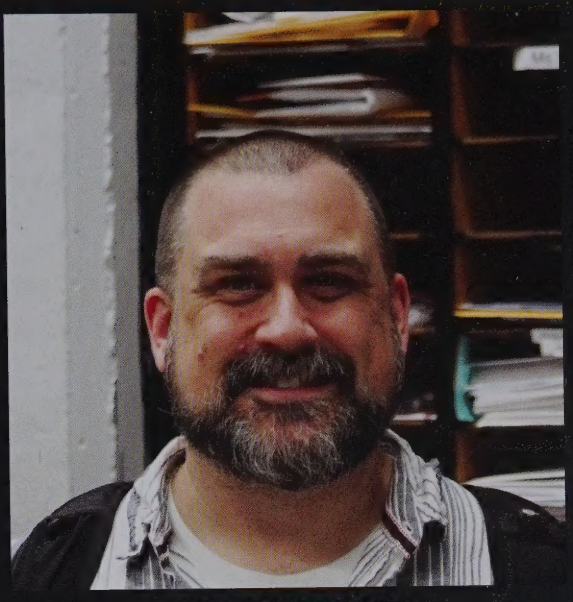
MS. FLOYD



MR. BANNAT

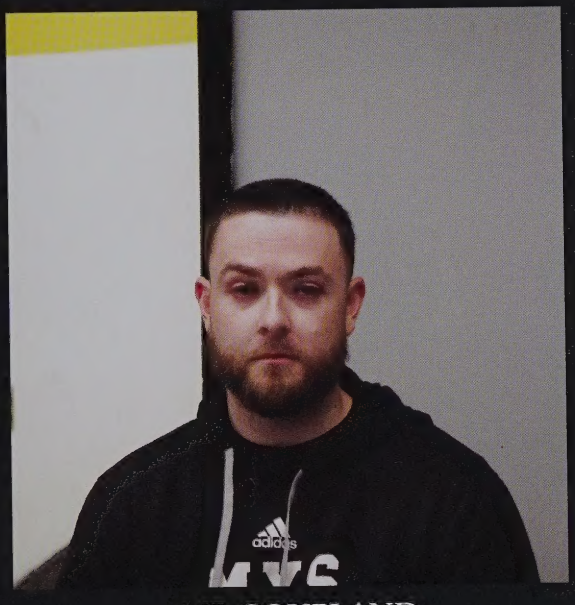
2024 FACULTY & STAFF

MS. SMITH



MR. DIAMOND

MS. WILLIAMSON

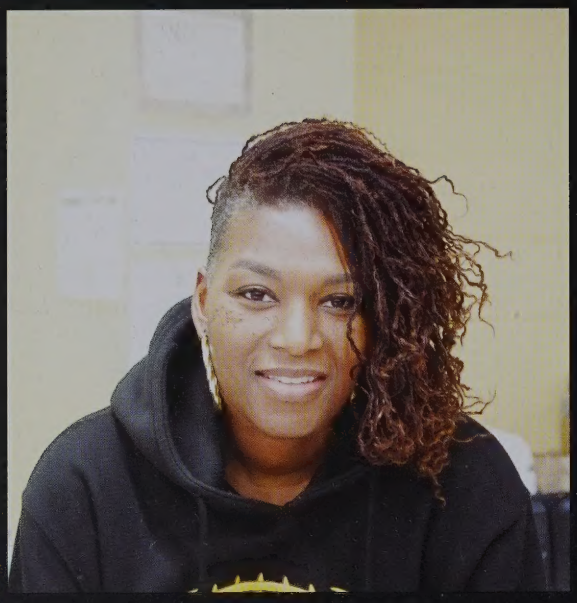


MR.COUPLAND

MS.ROBINSON

MR. MANDERVILLE

2024 FACULTY & STAFF



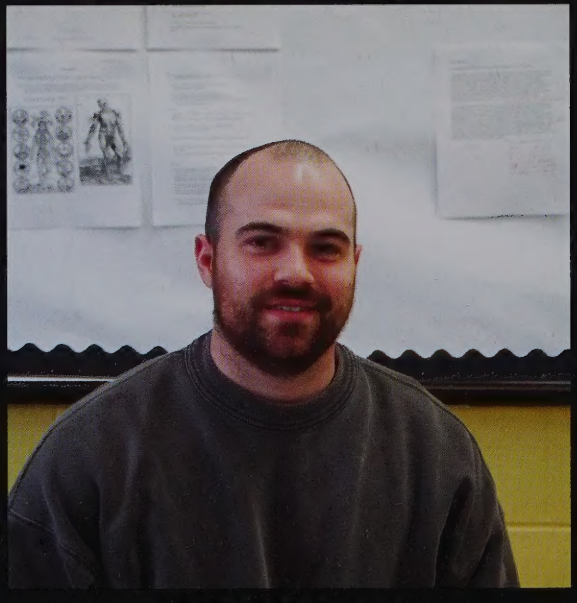
MS. ABDUL-HAMID

MR. OBEMBE

MS. DONALD

MR. MURIEL

MS. SHAHABUDEEN



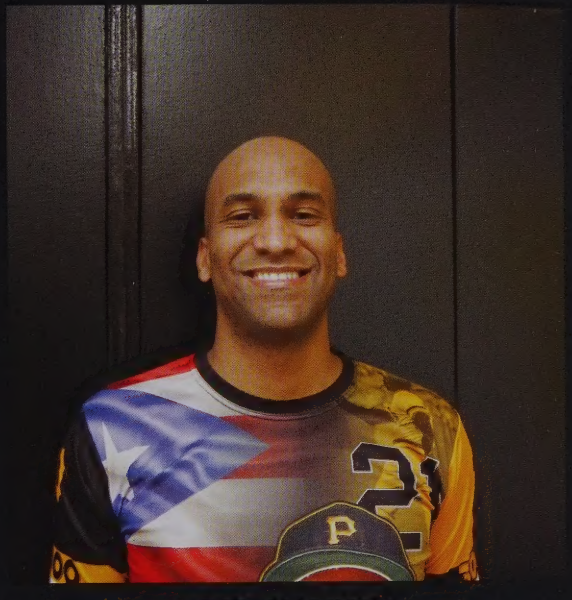
MR. RALSTON

2024 FACULTY & STAFF

MS. ENAOHWO

MR. RODRIGUEZ

MS. NDUKWE

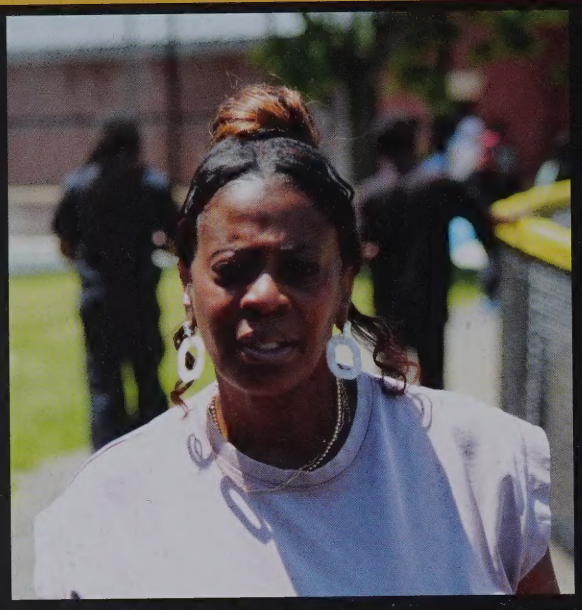


MR. YANTIN

DR. WILSON

MR. FELIX

2024 FACULTY & STAFF

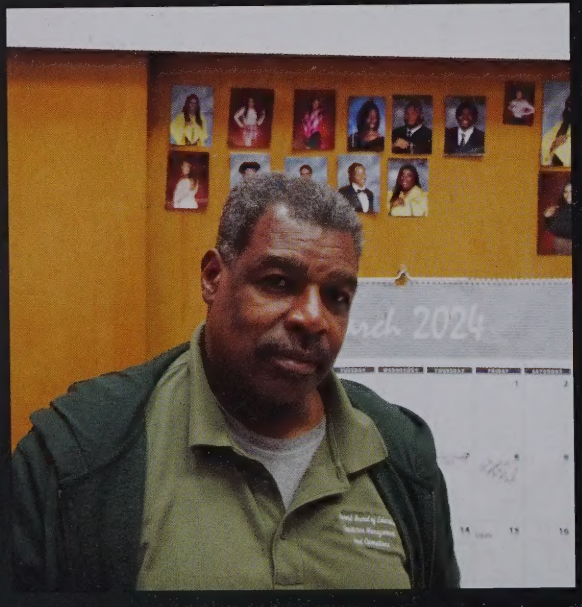


MS. CARMICHAEL

MR. HERNOULD

Ms. INGS

MR. SLADE



MR. WHITE

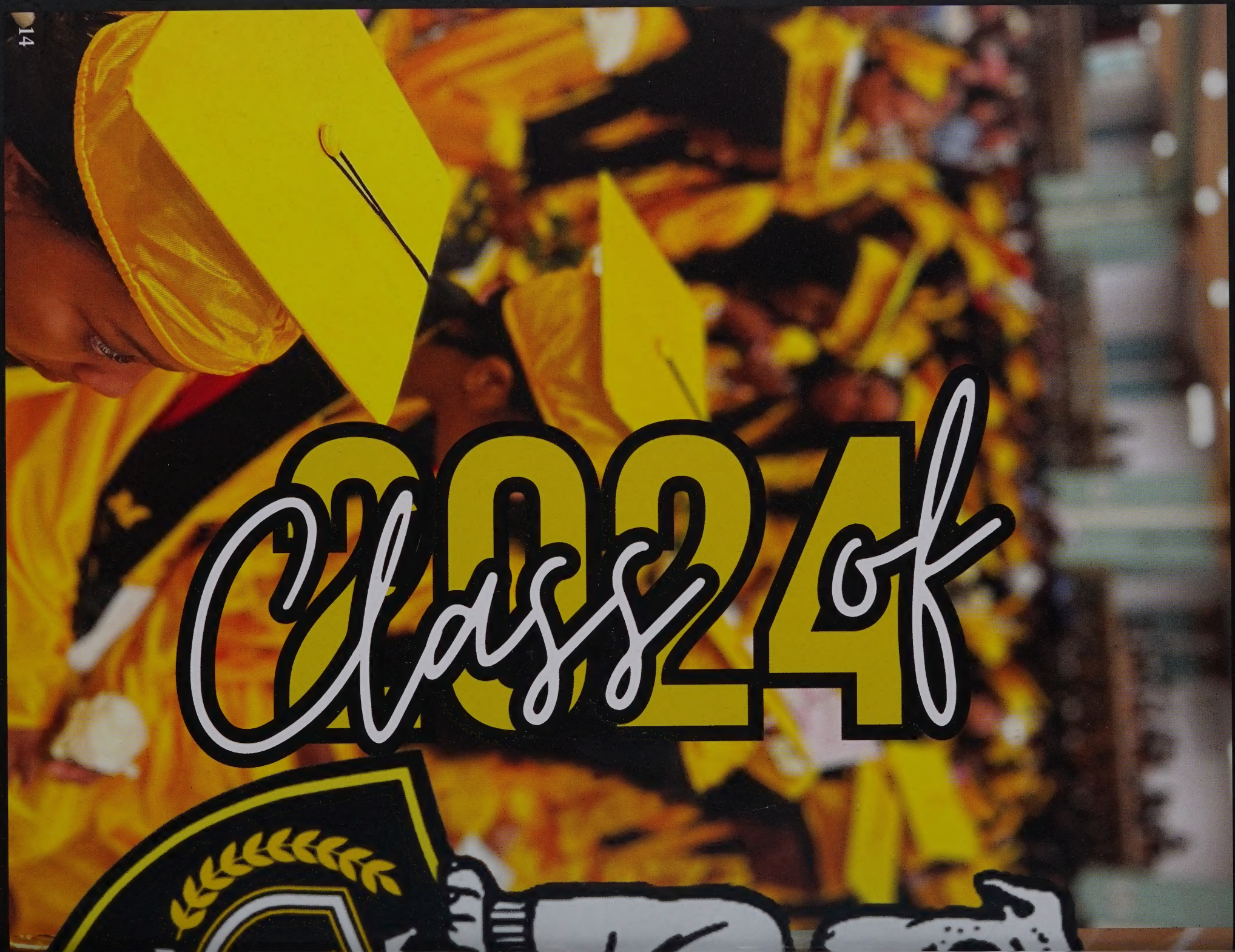
MR. JAMES

2024 FACULTY & STAFF

MR. SHEFFIELD

Signatures

Signatures


Class of
2024

Malcolm X Shabazz High School's Class of 2024 Dedication

To the resilient and unstoppable Class of 2024,
This yearbook is more than just a collection of memories; it is a testament to our grit, our determination, and our unwavering Bulldog pride. Through every challenge, we stood strong, embodying the spirit of Malcolm X Shabazz. As we turn these pages, let them remind us of the power we hold when we come together, and the incredible future that lies ahead.

Here's to the Class of 2024—forever proud, forever Bulldogs!

2024 GRADUATES

Acevedo, Makayla
Adedoyin, David
Adelakun, Waheed*
Baker, Tanajah
Betiku, Mary
Bonsu, Lennox
Bortey, Bernard
Bradley, Jayleel
Brown, Clarence
Butler, Benjamin
Campbell, Sasha
Chambliss, Khalif-Isa
Chisolm, Jaleim
Clark, Mekhia
Collins, Yasim [*] *
Corneh, Issae
Corujo, Lucas
Davis, Ahmyah
Ellis, Anese
Ellis, Tariq
Elumelu, Chukwudinma*
Emmanuel, Jeremiah
Evans, Skyler
Feliciano, Sareignity *
Francis, Sonia
Frimpong, Tammy [*] *
Gaddy, La-Quann
Gaines, Nasir Jr.
Gainey, Mykeez
Garcia, Amanda
Gordon, Monasia
Grullon Nova, Luis
Hall, Kezah
Hardy, Tamia
Harris, Laila
Howard, Genesis
Hudson,Tynajah
Lawal, Abdulgafar [*] *
Levy, Tyrah [*] *
Mabin, Brianei
Mack, Aminah
Maysonet, Logan
McPhatter, Sonia
Mengya, Livingston [*] *
Mitchell, Tysean
Montgomery, Ebonie
Moore, Varney
Ndifor, Amabo
Nelson, Ketciana
Obayomi, Mustakeem*
Ogutu, Nicole
Okoto, Jacob
Palaguachi, Unique
Parker, Kyair
Perez, Rihana
Ramos, Jesenia
Reddick, Ashmar
Ritchards, Asiyah
Roman, Aniyah
Sanders, Bi'Shay
Santos Rodzewicks, Sergio
Santos, Abraham
Scott, Nymira
Seabourne, Dajaun
Smith, Jaelen
Smith, Nazir
Sparrow, Tamiyah
Stavien, Yolanda
Taylor, Samiyyah
Timmons, Nadaejah
Washington, Zionnah
White, Jeffrey Jr.
White, Syhir
Williams, Inaya
Wilkerson, Jacira
Zachary, Oniyah [*] *
Zamora, Jahianna

[*] Denotes National Honor Society ***Denotes MXS Top 10 Students**

CLASS OFFICERS

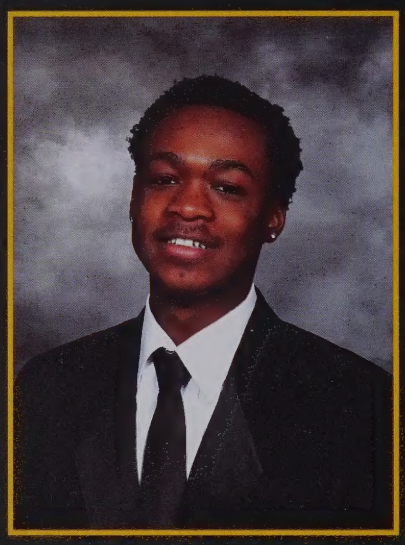
Chukwudinma Elumelu,
President

Rihana Perez,
V. President

Nicole Ogutu,
Treasurer

Abdulgafar Lawal,
Secretary

TOP 10 SENIORS



Waheed Adelakun

Yasim Collins

Chukwudinma Elumelu

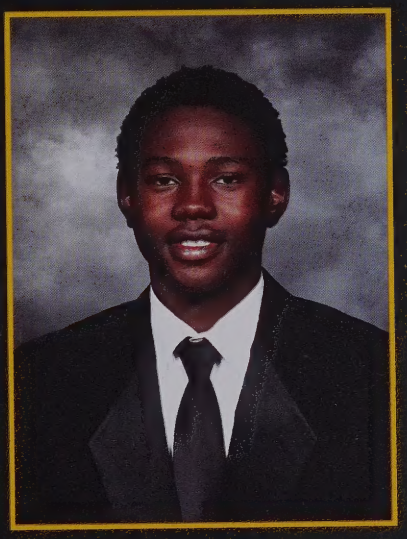
Sareignity Feliciano

Tammy Frimpong

TOP 10 SENIORS

Tyrah Levy

Abdulgafar Lawal



Livingston Mengya

Mustakeem Obayomi

Oniyah Zachary

2024 Valedictorian

Oniyah Zachary

Good afternoon, esteemed faculty, family, friends, and fellow graduates.

Standing before you today is no small achievement for me, as I am naturally introverted. However, I have come to understand that just as it took a significant effort for me to stand here, it took even more to reach this moment where we all stand together as graduates.

If my eyes occasionally drift downward during this speech, please know that it is not out of hesitation, but a reflection of the immense journey we have undertaken. We made it—together. Today, we gather not at the conclusion of our journey but at a pivotal crossroads, one that bridges the experiences of our past with the promise of a new beginning.

As we reflect on these four transformative years, let us take a moment to remember the lessons we have learned, the friendships we have forged, and the challenges we have overcome—both individually and collectively—with resilience and determination. It is essential that we never forget our experiences at Malcolm X Shabazz High School.

For me, I will always cherish the guidance and support of Mr. Hernould, Mrs. Floyd, Mrs. Hughes, and Mr. Lawrence, who recognized my potential and stood by me when I needed it most. Additionally, I extend my deepest gratitude to Dr. Buckman, a powerful leader who has consistently upheld our school with unwavering dedication. Her belief in our success and her encouragement have taught us that we are capable of far more than we often realize, and that what we contribute to the world matters profoundly.

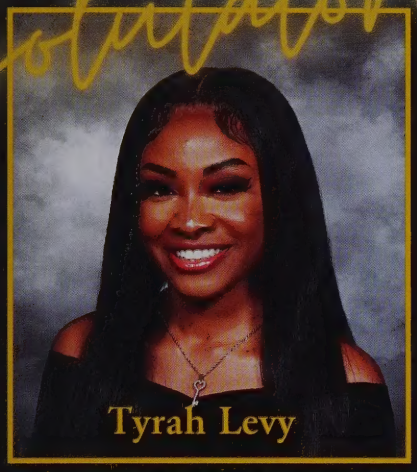
These experiences, these shared moments, have molded us into the graduates we are today. As you look around at your peers, I urge you to take a moment to consider the narratives that each person carries. Every individual here has a unique life story, one filled with moments of struggle, moments of joy, moments of fear, and, most importantly, a chapter that intersects with yours. This chapter is aptly titled "A New Beginning."

Today does not mark the end of our journey. It is merely the beginning. As we move forward, let us remember the importance of compassion and empathy. Let us be mindful that embarking on a path without purpose is misguided, and that the words and actions we choose shape the unfolding chapters of our lives.

The future before us is brimming with endless possibilities, and it is up to each of us to seize those opportunities with determination and unwavering belief in ourselves.

Congratulations, Class of 2024. We have arrived at this moment together, and we will continue to move forward together. We did it!

2024 Salutatorian



Tyrah Levy

ood morning, respected faculty, distinguished administrators, roud families, honored guests, and most importantly, the xtraordinary graduating Class of 2024, a cohort any high school ould be privileged to celebrate.

is an immense honor to stand before you as the Salutatorian of he Class of 2024. My name is Tyrah Levy. I was born and raised in ingston, Jamaica. Today, I am not just welcoming you to a eremony; I am inviting you to embrace this moment of ulmination and transition.

hen I came to the United States, I was filled with a mix of xcitement and apprehension. The bustling cities, diverse cultures, nd endless opportunities were captivating, but the unfamiliarity of all was daunting. I had to navigate new customs, adapt to a ifferent pace of life, and overcome the challenges of being in a ew environment. However, as time passed, I found my footing nd began to appreciate the vast possibilities this country offered. y very first day, October 6th, 2022, at this school, I called my om and told her I am never coming back here but my mom is aribbean I don't know who I thought I was speaking to and as he would say "I am not one of your little friends" or in patois "me nuh one a yuh likkle fren dem enuh", so I definitely knew I would e here for another year and a half. I say this to say that the udents of Malcolm X Shabazz High School may not have the best rst impressions, but they consistently prove to be reliable and enuinely caring over time. I have friends and teachers here that I ill forever remember. I am glad I gave this school a chance ecause it has made a tremendous impact on my life, unlocking oors to endless opportunities and shaping me into a confident, ell-rounded individual ready to conquer the future. Thank you to veryone that welcomed me here and made me feel at home. No ne here made me feel like I had to hide my personality, they even ade me showcase it more.

ow to the Class of 2024, remember that without God we are nothing. Always put him first in whatever you do. Live by the philosophy of Philippians 4:13 - "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me". We are here today, the graduating class of 2024, not just as students of Malcolm X Shabazz High School, but as inheritors of a legacy. A legacy that whispers to us from the very walls of this institution, urging us to rise, to strive, and to leave our mark on the world. Malcolm X's legacy is not just a history, it is a call to action. A legacy woven with threads of pride, respect, and unwavering determination. Pride is what we take in osssur school, our achievements, and ourselves. It is not only in our academic accomplishments but also in the way we have grown as people. We have learned to take pride in our uniqueness and in our shared identity as Bulldogs. We learned that respect isn't given, it is earned. Our time at Malcolm X Shabazz High School has taught us to respect ourselves, for each other, and for our community no matter what background a person is from. Our journey has not been without its obstacles. We've faced late-night study sessions, personal struggles, and the uncertainty of a global pandemic. Yet, through it all, we've demonstrated remarkable determination. We've shown that when faced with adversity, we rise, we adapt, and we persevere. This determination is our superpower. As we venture into the future, whether it be college, careers, or other paths, let us harness this unyielding spirit. Let us set ambitious goals and chase them with the same fervor that has brought us to this momentous day.

To our teachers, teachers like Mr. Ladj, Mrs. Shahabudeen, Mr. Hernould and Ms. Donald, only to name a few - Thank you for instilling these values in us. Thank you for being our guiding lights throughout this journey. You have challenged us to explore new ideas, and inspired us to strive for excellence. We are profoundly grateful for the patience and care you have shown us, and for believing in our potential even when we doubted ourselves. We carry forward the wisdom and skills you have imparted, and we hope to make you proud by applying them in our future endeavors. Thank you for being more than just educators; thank you for being mentors, role models, and friends.

To our families, your unwavering support has been our foundation. Your love and encouragement have been our constant source of strength. Thank you for always being there for us. Today's celebration is as much yours as it ours. You have been our confidants and we are deeply grateful for the sacrifices you have made to ensure our success. We love you and this is only the beginning because we will not stop until you are living the luxurious lifestyle that you truly deserve

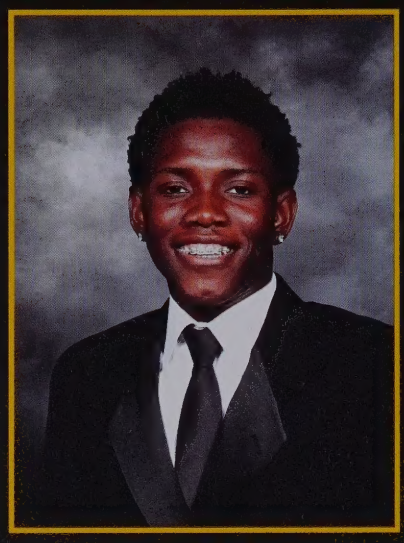
.Thank you to our principal and the administration because you have never made us try to act differently or try to make us become something we are not. Your commitment to creating a positive and nurturing environment has allowed us to thrive both academically and personally. Your vision and hard work behind the scenes have ensured that we have the resources, opportunities and support needed to succeed. Thank you for everything.

To my fellow graduates, this is the moment we have all been waiting for. This is it. There is no more hiding from Mrs. Enaohwo, even though we know she just wanted what is best for us and we thank her for that. For pushing us to be who we truly are and only looking out for our best interests at heart.

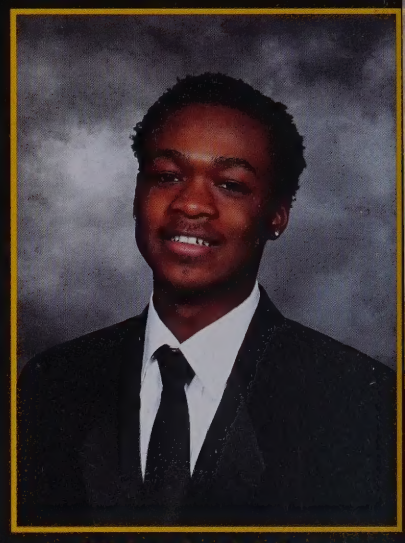
As we stand on the cusp of new beginnings, remember that the values of pride, respect, and determination are not just words—they are our foundation. They are the guiding principles that will help us navigate the unknown and achieve greatness. We came in as students and now we are leaving as graduates, ready to take on the world. Just remember that YOU ARE HER! and YOU ARE HIM! WE DID IT!

2024 Seniors

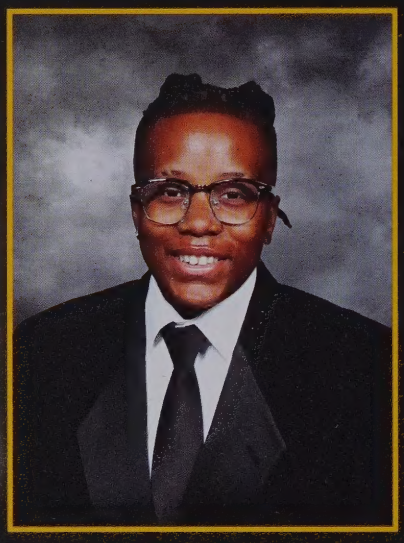
Makayla Acevedo



David Adedoyin

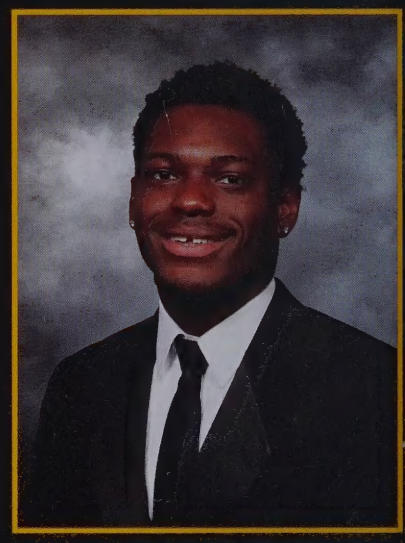


Waheed Adelakun

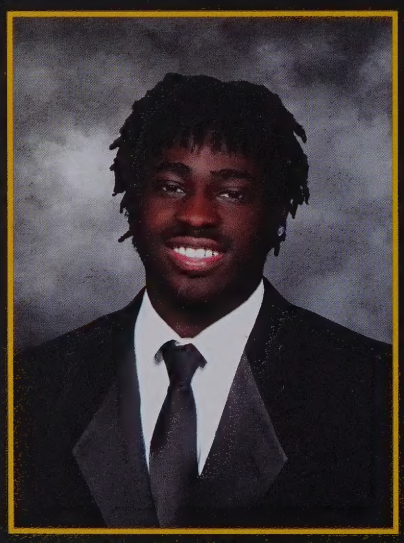


Tanajah Baker

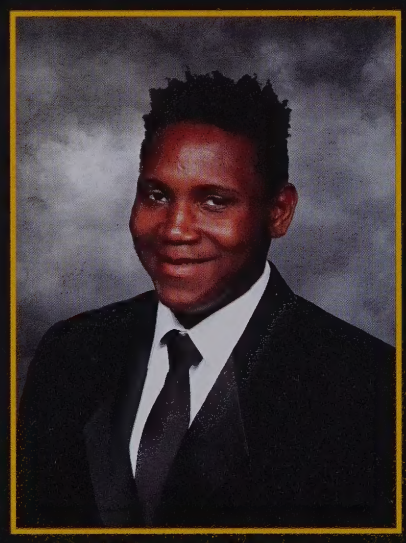
Mary Betiku



Lennox Bonsu

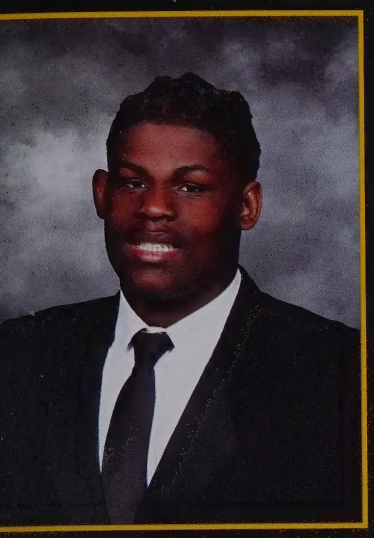


Bernard Bortey



Clarence Brown

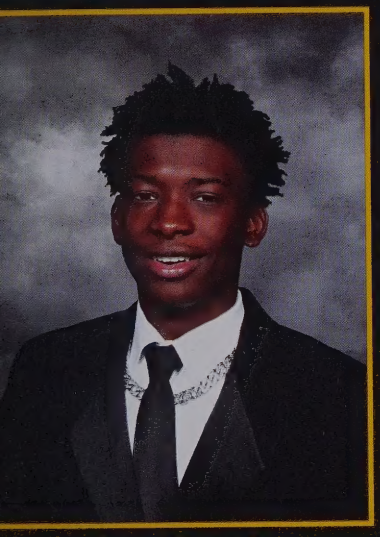
Sasha Campbell



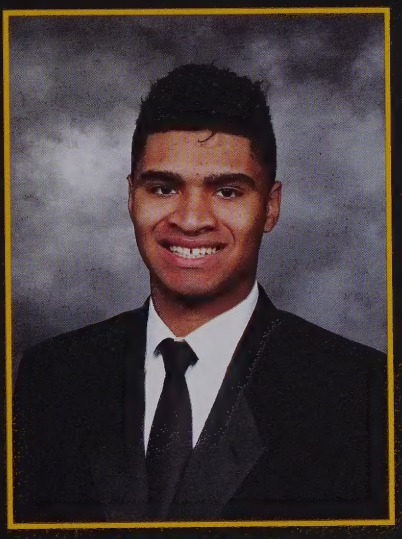
Jaleim Chisolm

Mekhia Clark

Yasim Collins



Issae Corneh



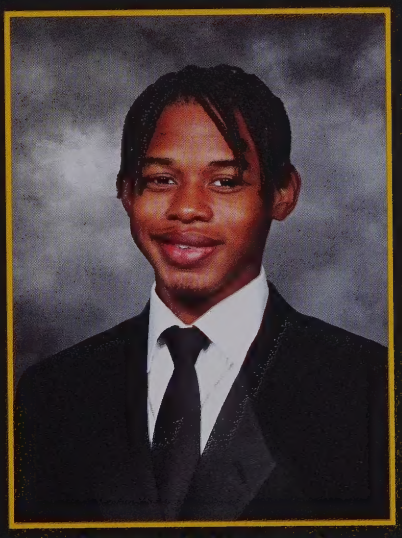
Lucas Corujo

Anese Ellis

2024 Seniors

Tariq Ellis

Chukwudinma Elumelu



Jeremiah Emanuel

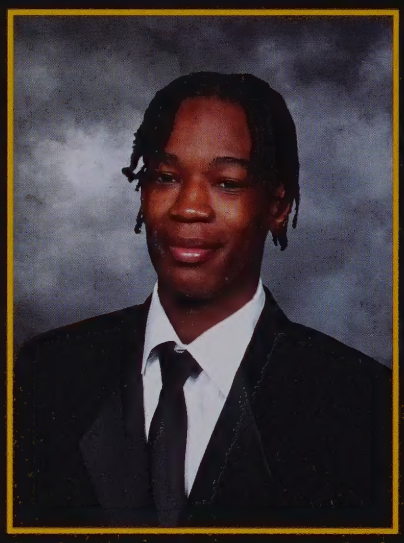
2024 Seniors

Skyler Evans

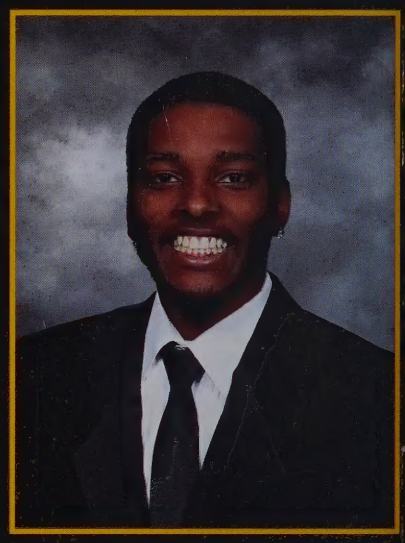
Sareignity Feliciano

Tammy Frimpong

La-Quann Gaddy



Nasir Gaines



Mykeez Gainey

Amanda Garcia

Monasia Gordon

Luis Grullon Nova

Kezah Hall

Tamia Hardy

Laila Harris

Genesis Howard

Tynajah Hudson

Abdulgafar Lawal

2024 Seniors

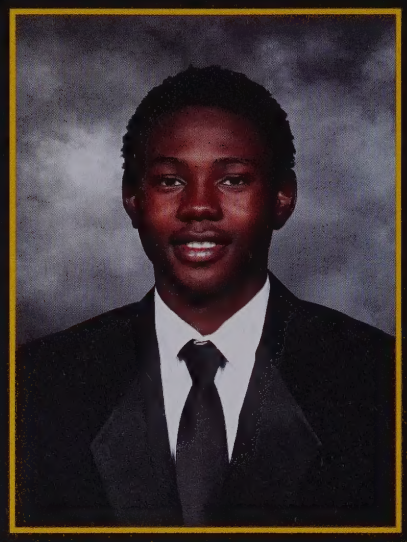
Tyrah Levy

Aminah Mack

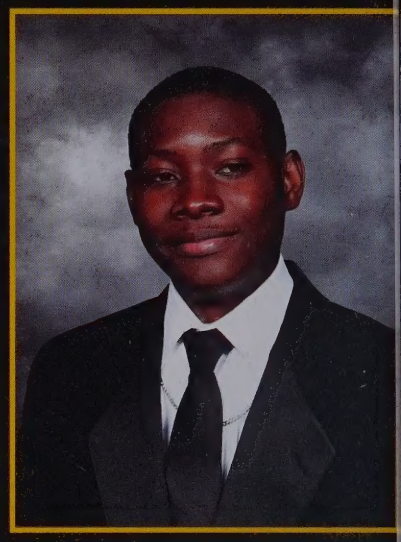
Logan Maysonet

2024 Seniors

Sonia Mcphatter

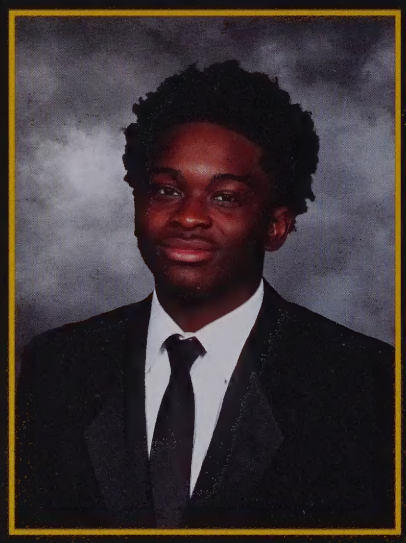


Livingston Mengya

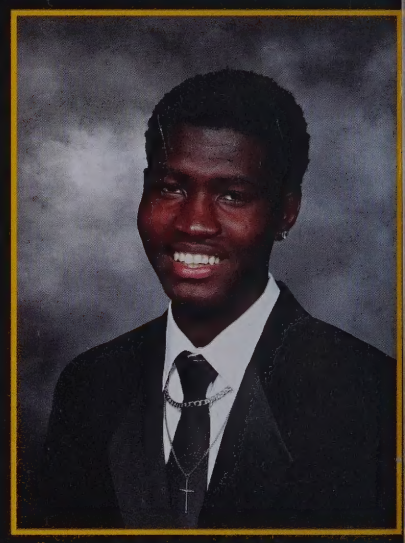


Tysean Mitchell

Ebonie Montgomery

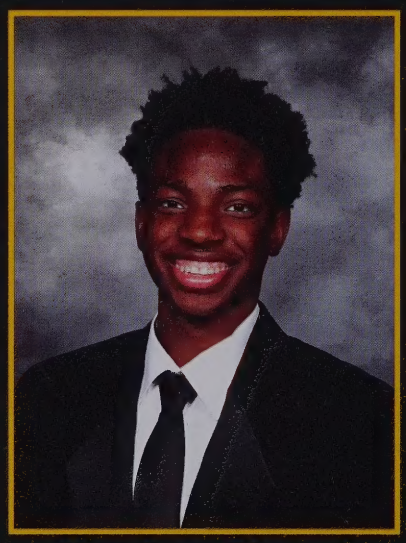


Varney Moore



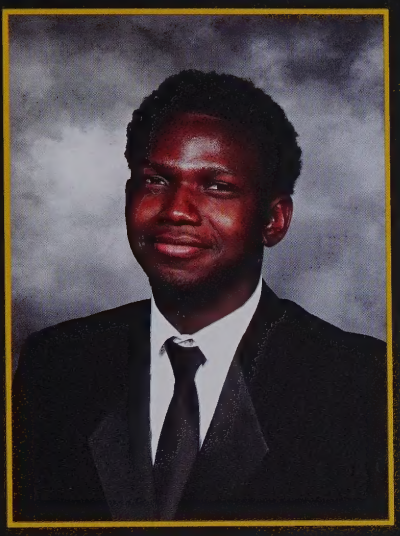
Amabo Ndifor

Ketciana Nelson

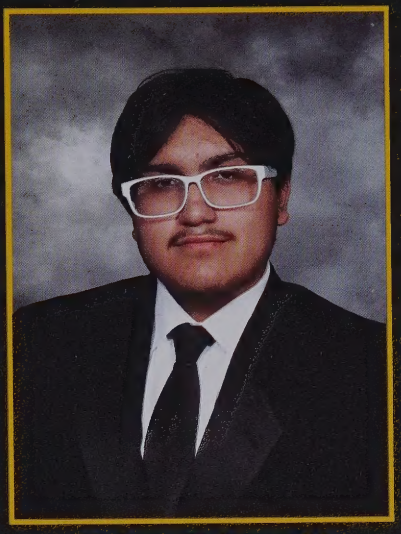


Mustakeem Obayomi

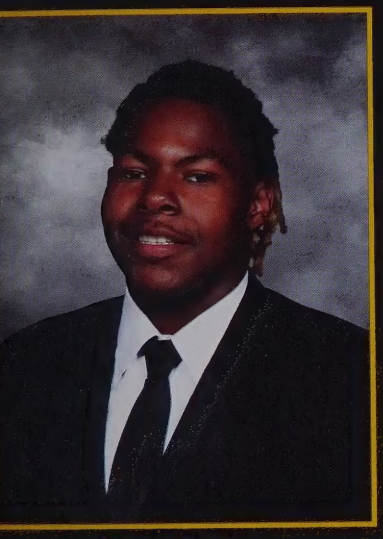
Nicole Ogutu



Jacob Okoto



Unique Palaguachi



Kyair Parker

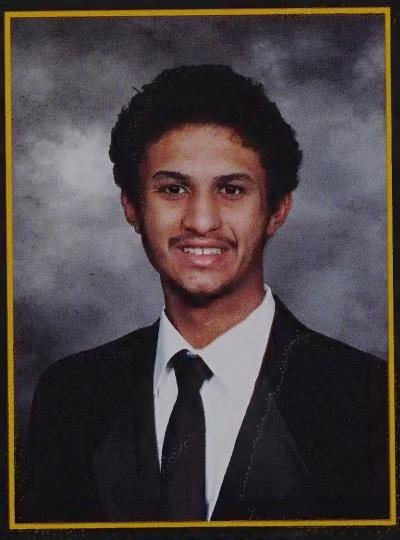
Rihana Perez

Jesenia Ramos

2024 Seniors

Ashmar Reddick

Asiyah Ritchards



Ricardo Rivera

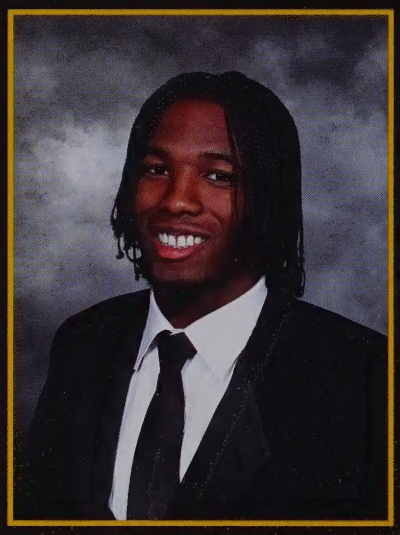
2024 Seniors

Aniyah Roman

Bi'Shay Sanders

Nymira Scott

Dajaun Seabourne



Nazir Smith

Tamiyah Sparrow

Samiyyah Taylor

Nadaejah Timmons

Ziyonnah Washington

Jeffrey White Jr

Inaya Williams

Inaya Williams

Oniyah Zachary

Jahianna Zamora

Benjamin Butler

Seniors 2024

Khalif-Isa Chambliss

Ahmyah Davis

Sonia Francis

Seniors 2024

Brianiei Mabin

Sergio Santos Rodzewicks

Abraham Santos

Jaelen Smith

Yolanda Stavien

Syhir White

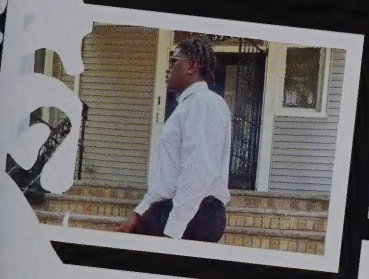
Jacira Wilkerson

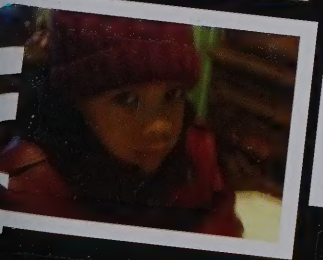
So Hard to be a Bull Dog...

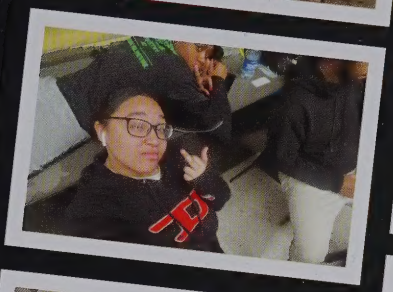
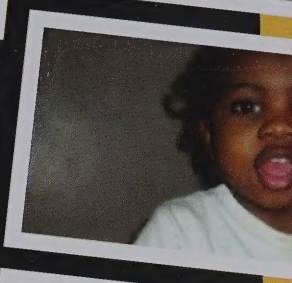
Seniors 2024

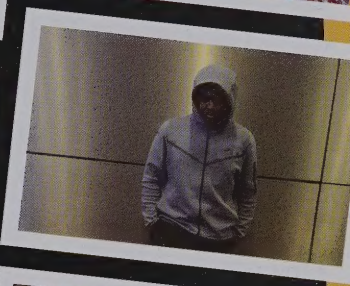
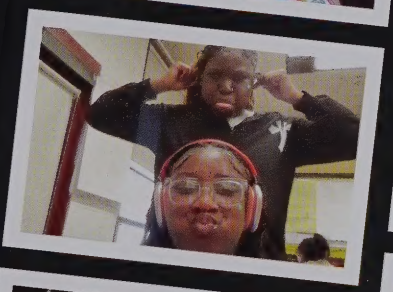
YOUR VICTORY IS RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER. NEVER GIVE UP
I BLAME NICOLE
paciencia y fe
Change is the best teacher.
They don't get the big picture, they get cropped out.
BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY
You can't move forward without saying goodbye to the past.
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN TOP-TIER! GOOGLE ME!
We'll never be those kids again
DON'T WATCH THE CLOCK DO WHAT IT DOES
LET YOU LIGHT BECOME BIGGER THAN SOMEONE'S SHADOW
Nobody Built like you.
Remember Dat.
Work in silence, let success be the voice.
Being Confidential means being me. What does being you mean?
IT'S MY FAULT
Be anything but Ordinary
NEXT STEP!
I HELPED NICOLE
SUCCESS IS STUMBLING FROM FAILURE TO FAILURE WITH NO LOSS OF ENTHUSIASM
WE DID IT Y'ALL..!!
BE ME & ONLY ME!
GOD DID!
There's always a better way
WE OUT!
Keep your head in the game because it is never game over
I CAN'T REMEMBER WHEN I WASN'T TIRED.
Y'all want my autograph now or later?
THERE IS NO PLAN B

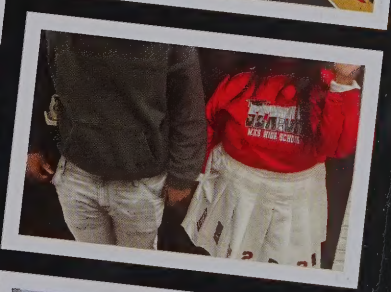
SENIOR CANDIDS

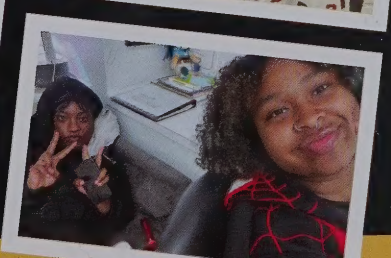








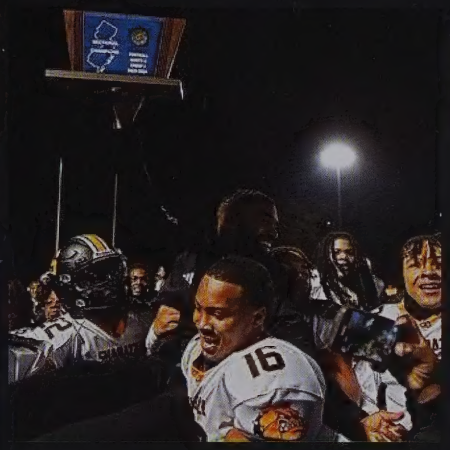
ATHLETICS 2024

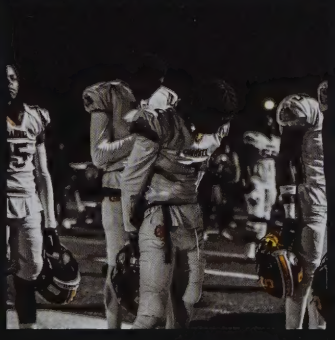
#EATINGGOOD #DOGFOOD

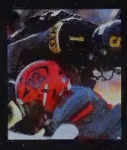
2024 BULLDOG PRIDE!

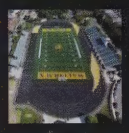
NJSIA S2G1 CHAMPS!

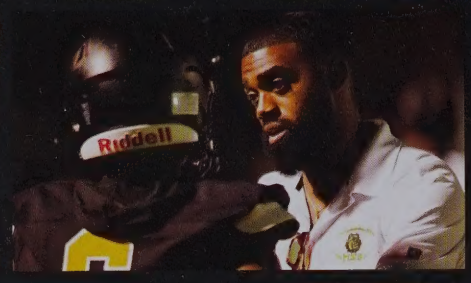
FOOTBALL










Riddell

BULLDOGS

SHABAZZ
BULLDOGS

BULLDOGS

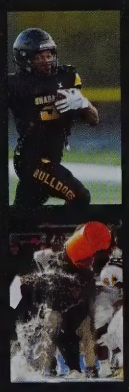
SHABAZZ
9
BULLDOGS

SHABAZZ
7

Riddell
32

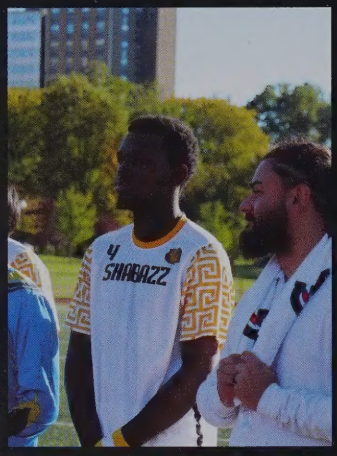
SHABAZZ

SHABAZZ



SHABAZZ
58

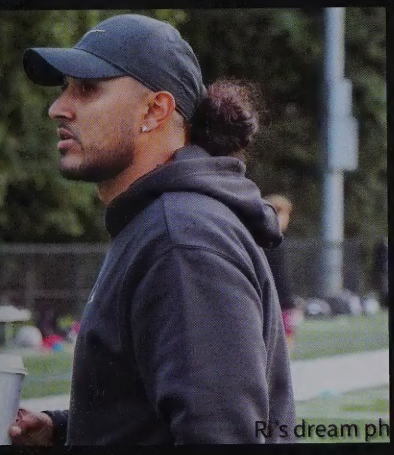
SOCCER NJSIAA 13-3 RECORD



SHABAZZ BOYS SOCCER

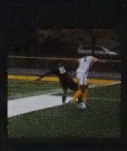
LIVINGSTON MENGYA

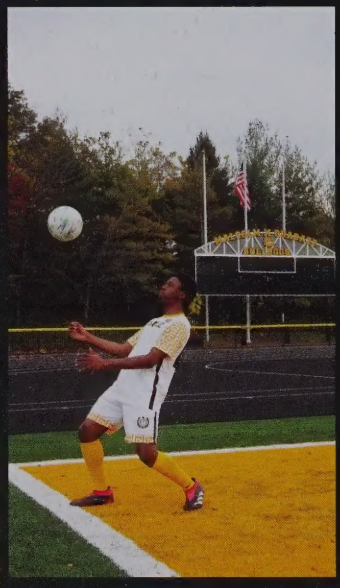
NJSIAA ALL GROUP 1

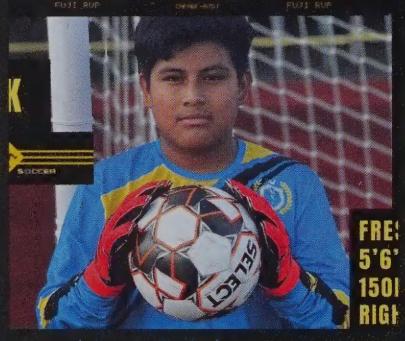


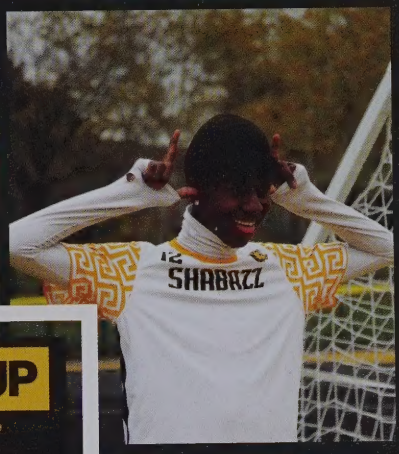
HIGH MENTALITY

EST. 2022









NSIAA

NORTH JERSY, SECTION 2, GROUP 1 TOURNAMNET

2

HIGH

1

LINEUP

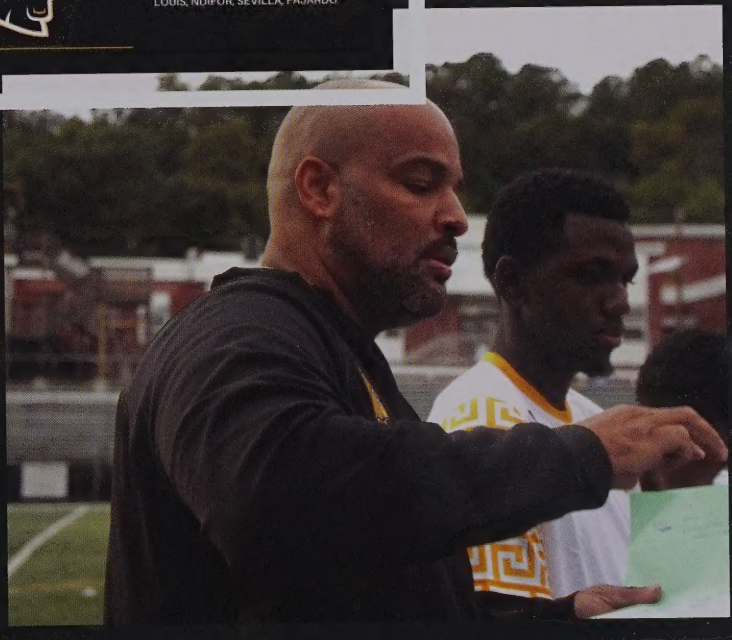
vs. Cedar Grove

GK STEVEN LAZO
CB AYODEJI JOSHUA MAKUN
CB CJ OKOTO (C)
CB IMORO BARRY
CB KIZITO ILLORI
CM DAVID ANACLETUS
CM RAHEIM MUNDLE
LM LIVINGSTON MENGYA
RM ABDOUL KONVOLBO
CF ADEDAYO ADEBOMI
CF JAHEIM MUNDLE

HEAD COACH: J. HERNOULD
COACH: R. MURIEL
COACH: J. ALVES

SUBSTITUTES:

FOLLEY, CORDOVA, AKINGUNOLA, LOPEZ, SA
LOUIS, NDIFOR, SEVILLA, FAJARDO

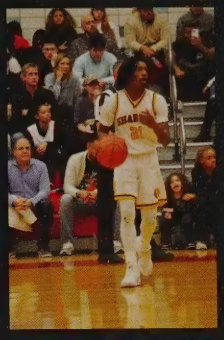


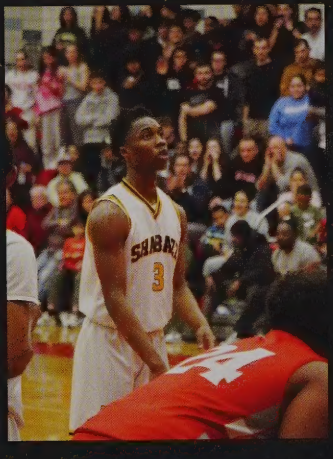
SHABAZZ
14

SHABAZZ
10

EXIT

SHABAZZ
4
SHABAZZ
5





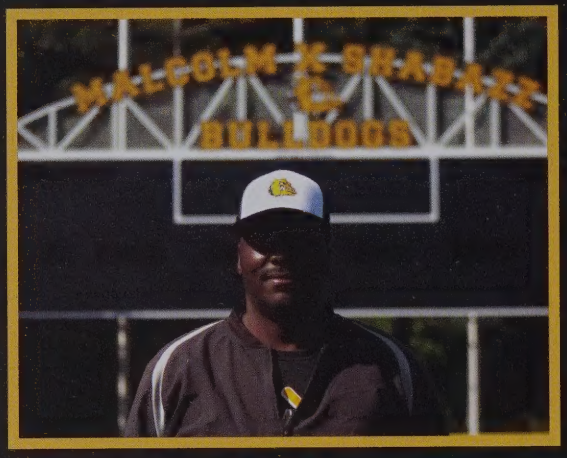
BOYS & GIRLS BASKETBALL

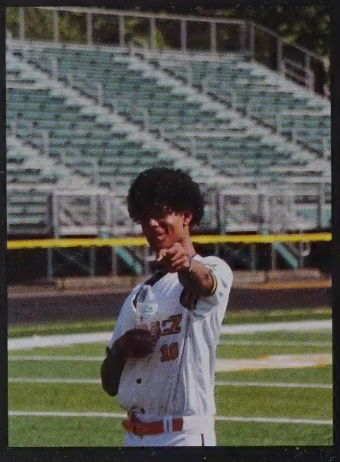
SPORTS HALL OF FAME
SHABAZZ
15
SHABAZZ
10

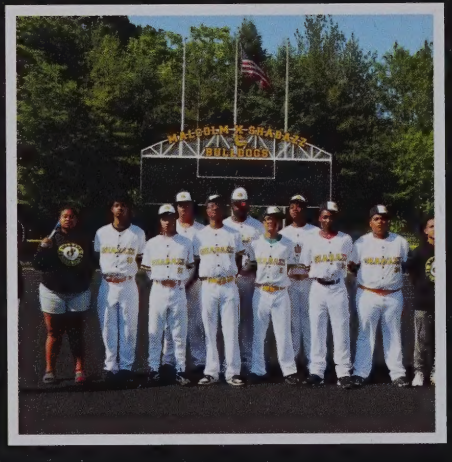
BULLDOGS HOOPS

TRACK & FIELD

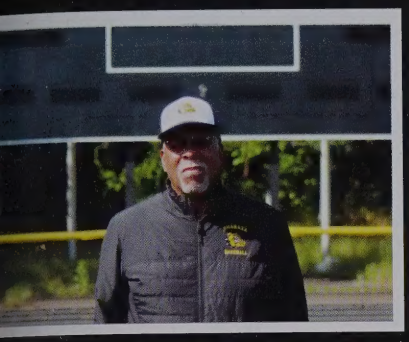
402
SHABAZZ







BASEBALL & SOFTBALL



MALCOLM X SHABAZZ
BULLDOGS

MXS
13

EASTON

MALCOLM X SHABAZZ
BULLDOGS

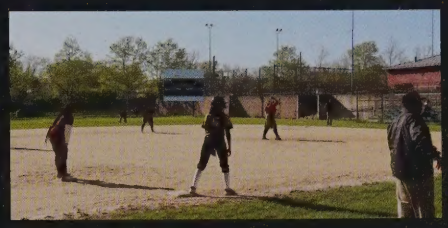
MXS

BULLDOGS

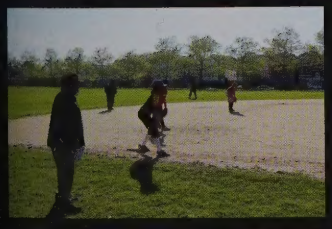
MXS

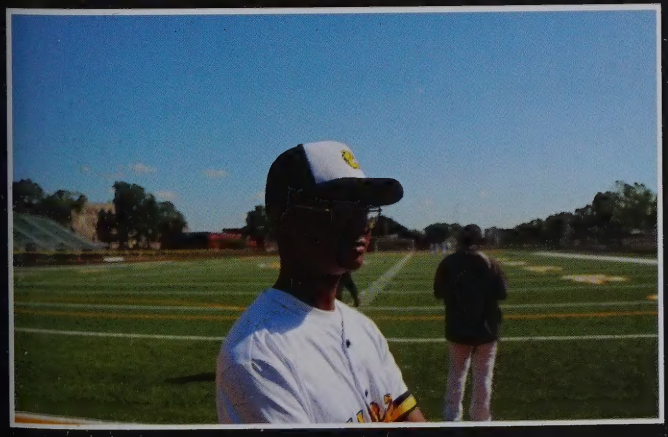
MXS

ABAZ



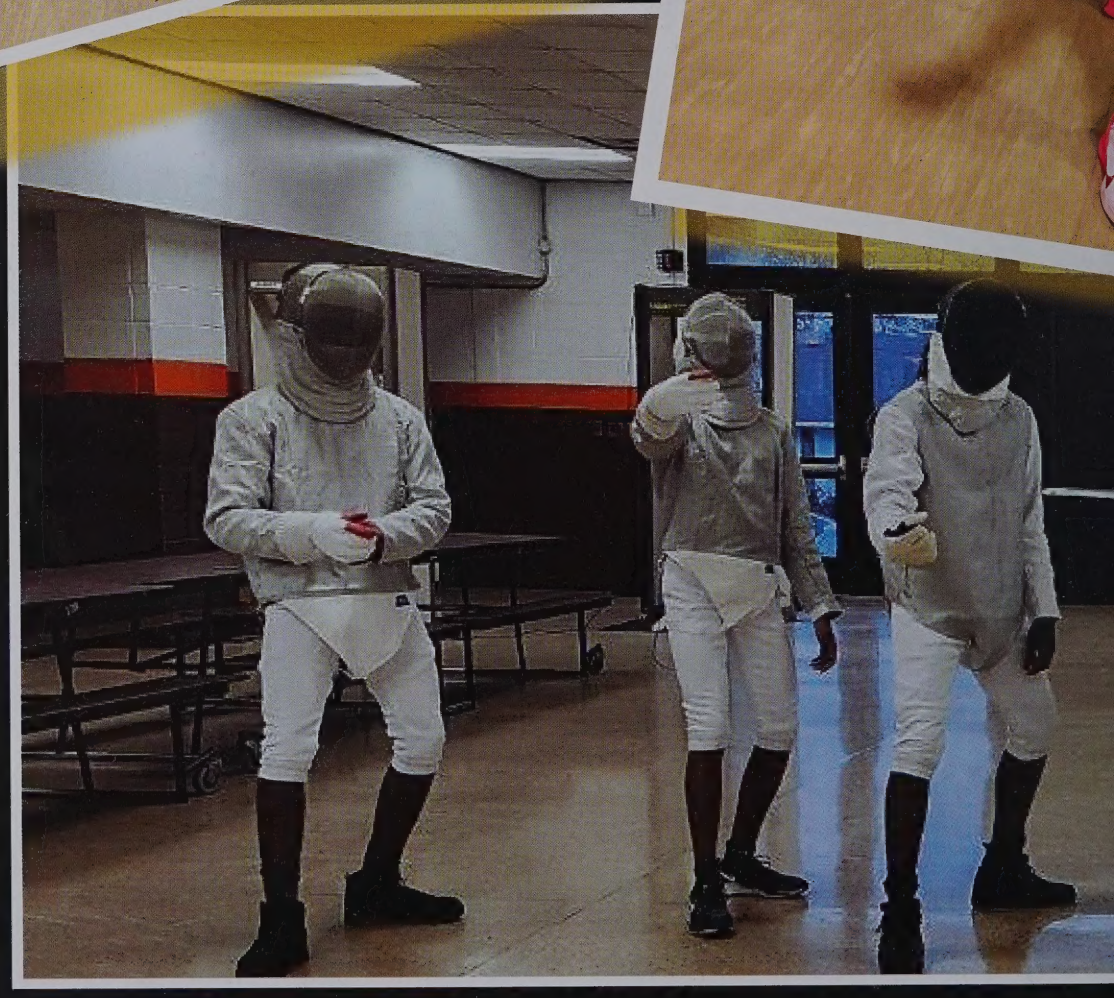
BIG HITTERS





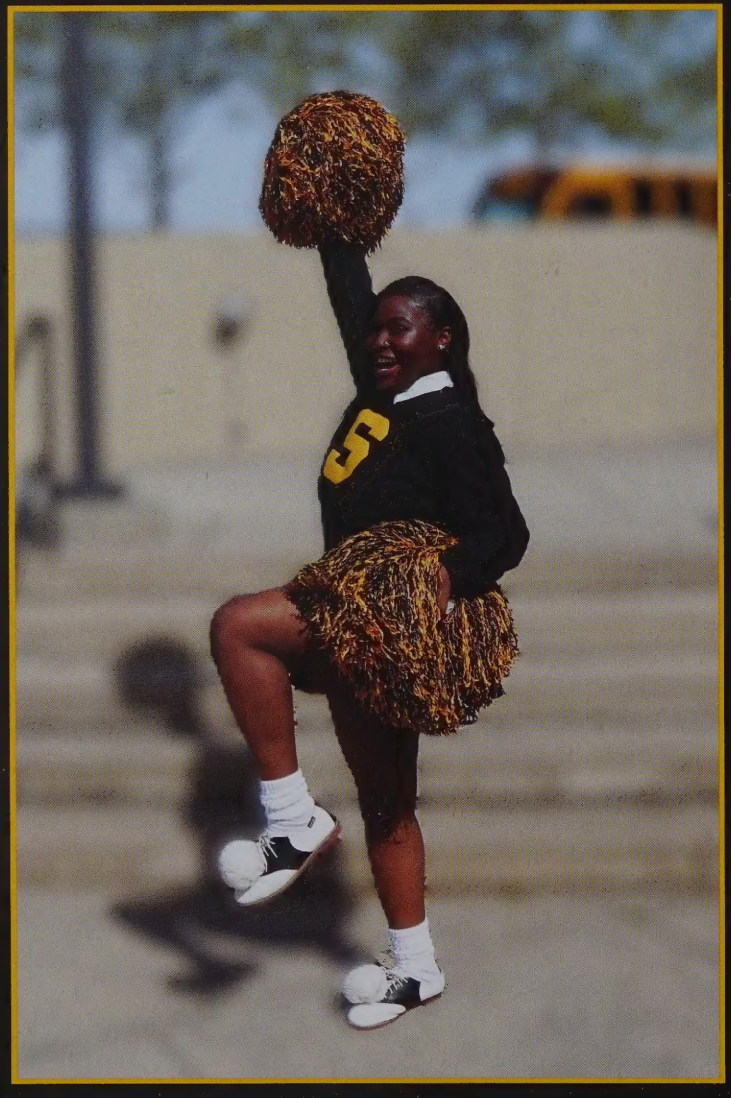
FLAG FOOTBALL

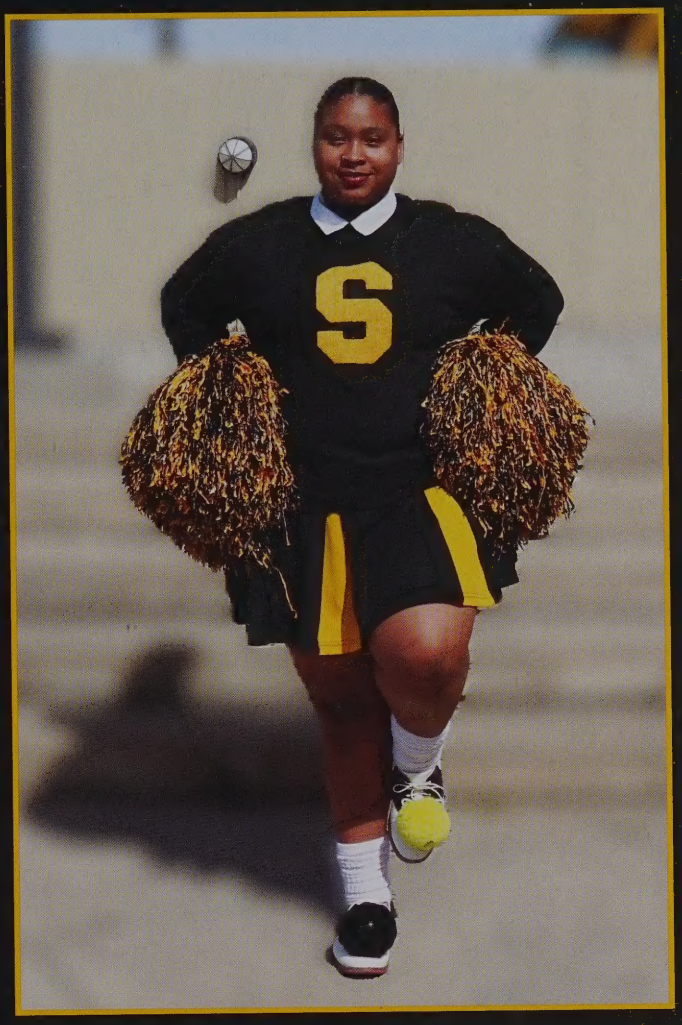
FIRST TEAM
DEFENSIVE ALLCONFRE
Lady BULLDOGS
HONORABLE MENTION
FIRST TEAM
DEFENSIVE ALLCONFRENCE



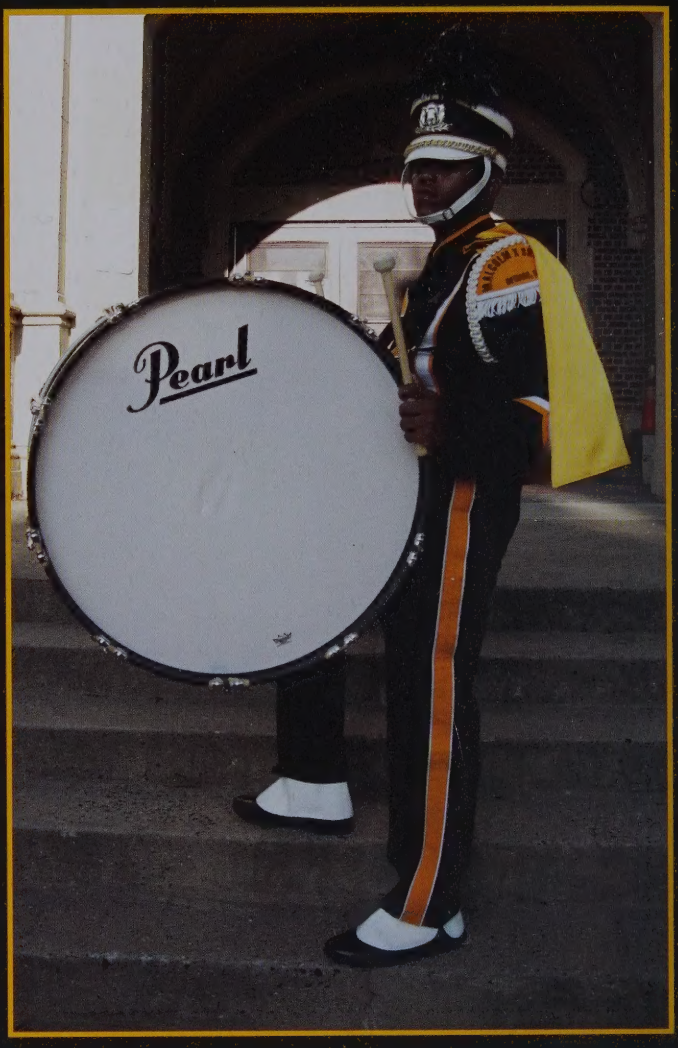
2024 BADDEST BAND!

15
2
11





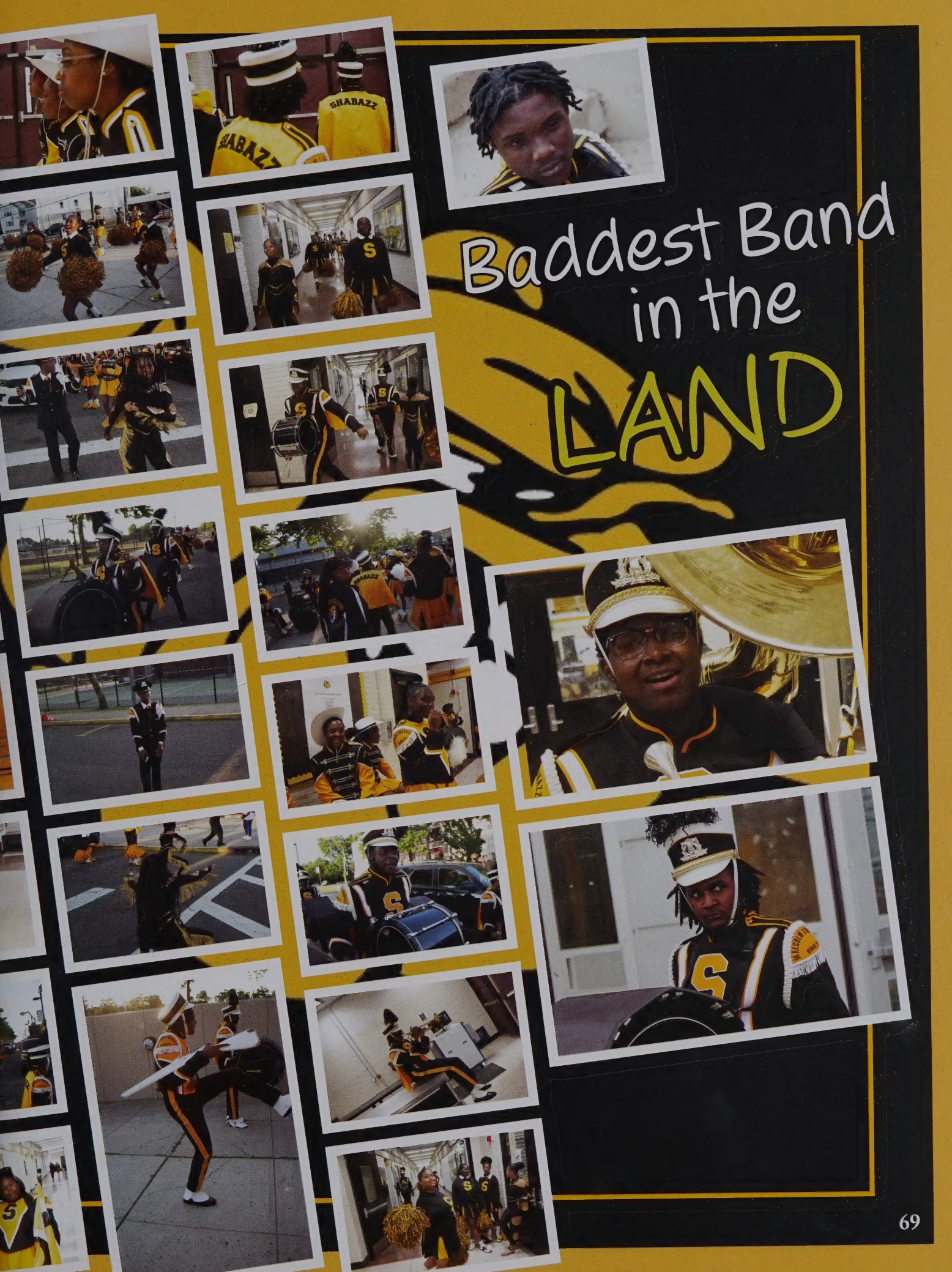
SENIORS

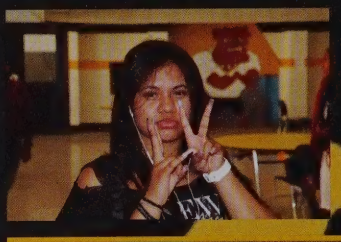
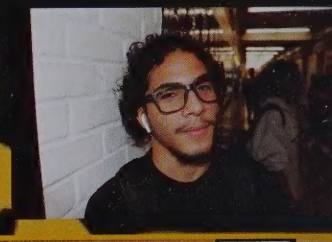

Pearl

SENIORS

SECTIONS

SECTIONS


Baddest Band
in the
LAND

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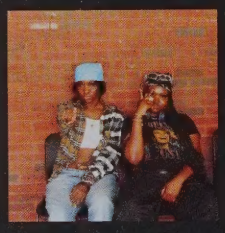
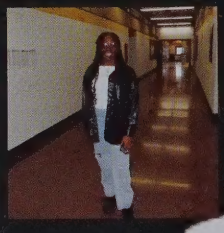
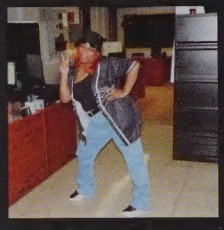
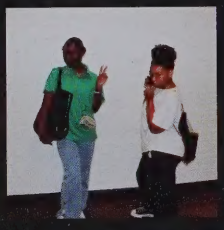
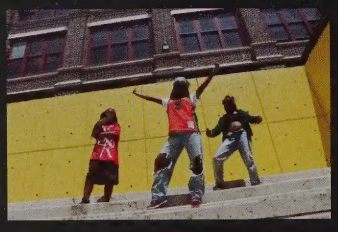
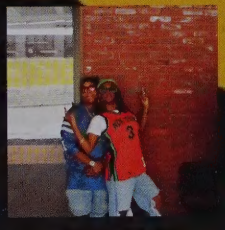
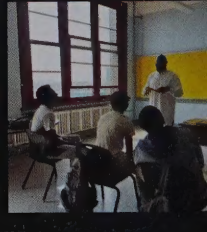


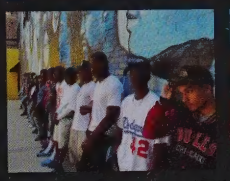


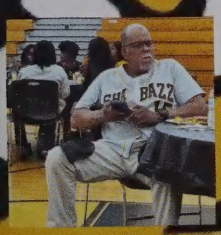


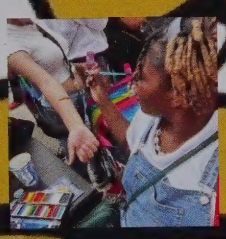


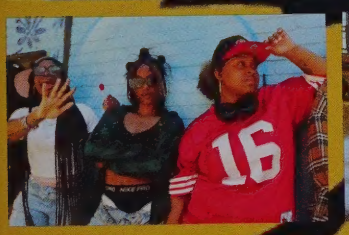


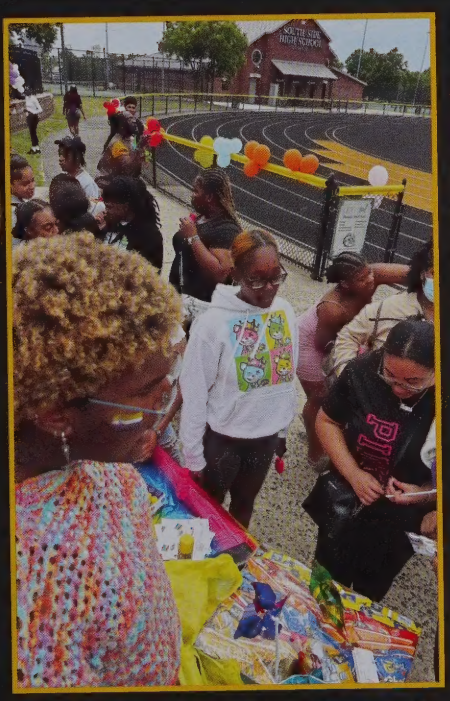
STUDENT LIFE

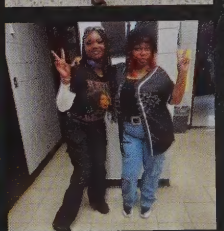


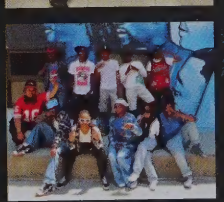


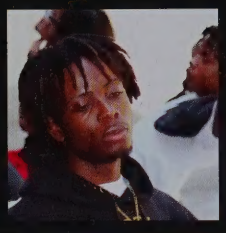


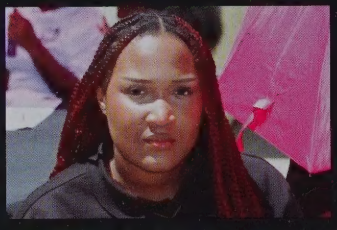












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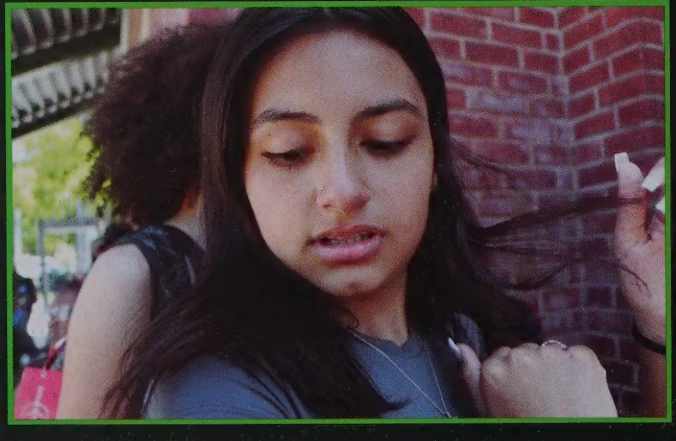
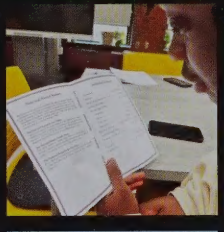
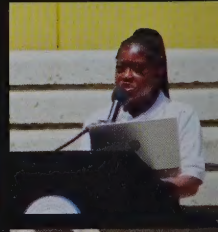
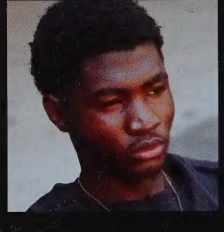
Malcolm
X
Shabazz
High School

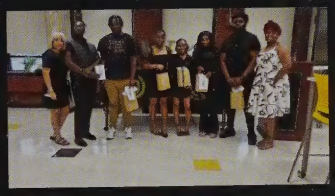


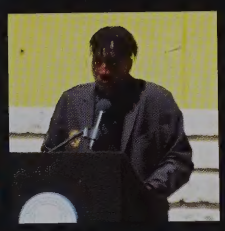


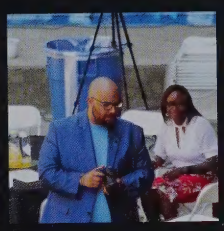


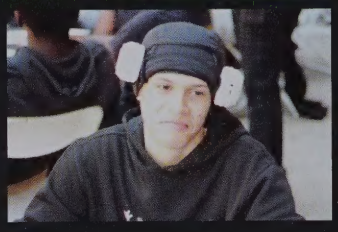


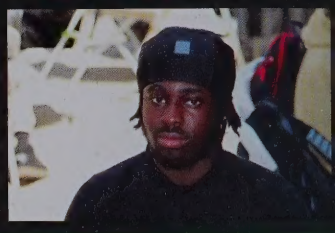
STUDENT LIFE

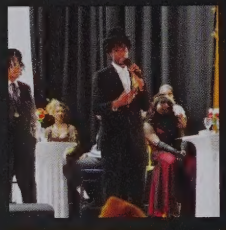












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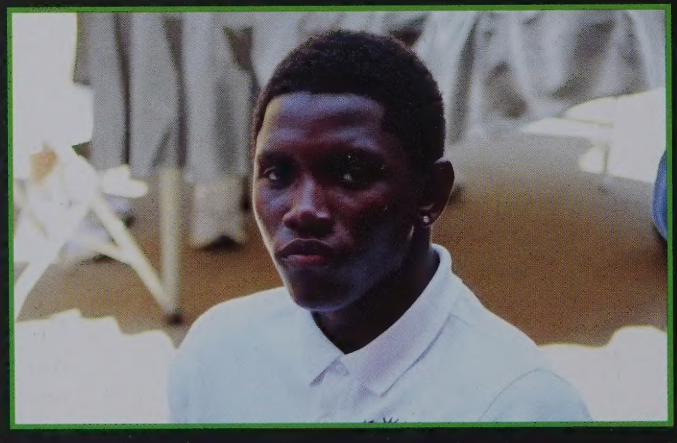
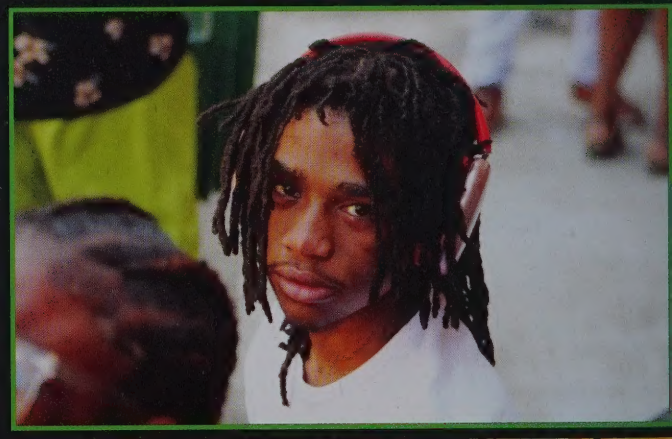
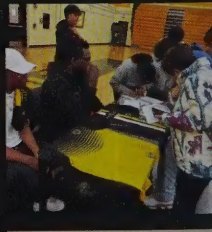
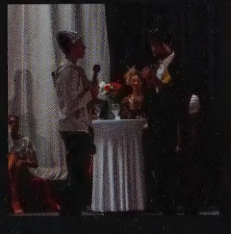
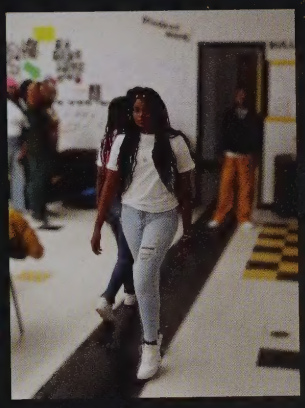


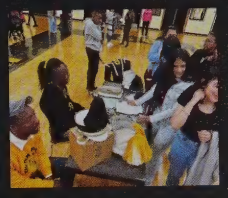


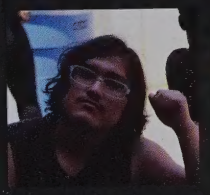


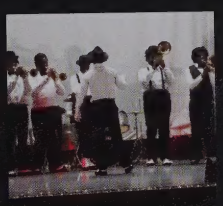


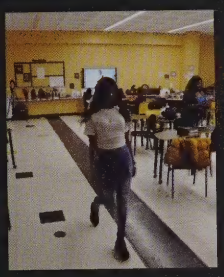


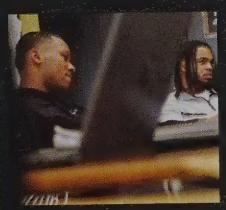
STUDENT LIFE

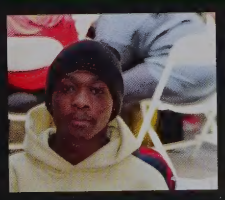


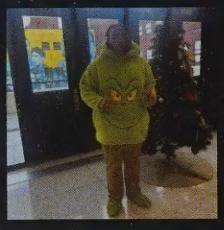


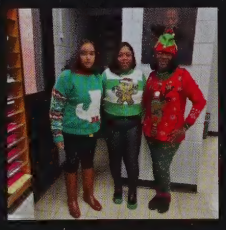


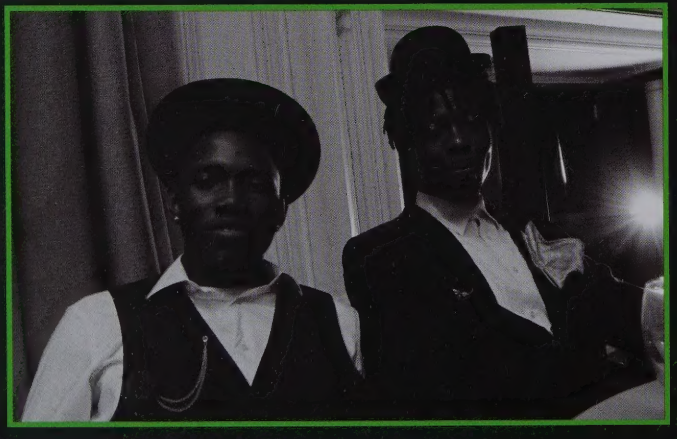


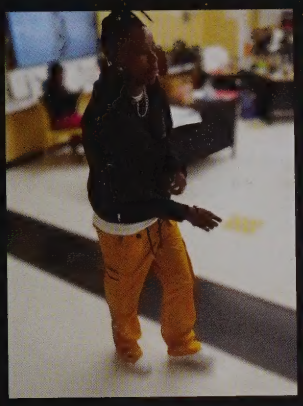




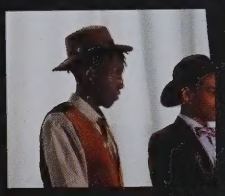


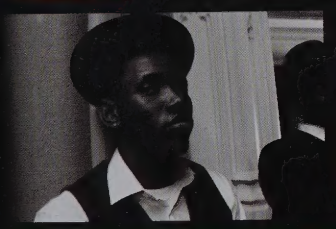


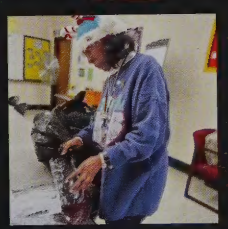


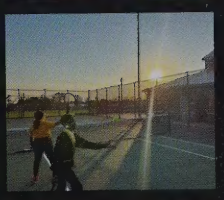


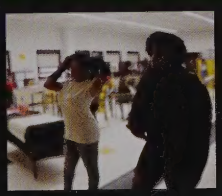
STUDENT LIFE

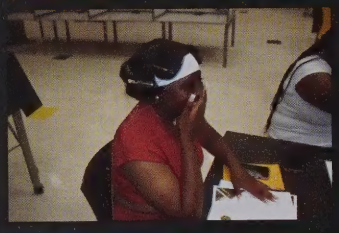


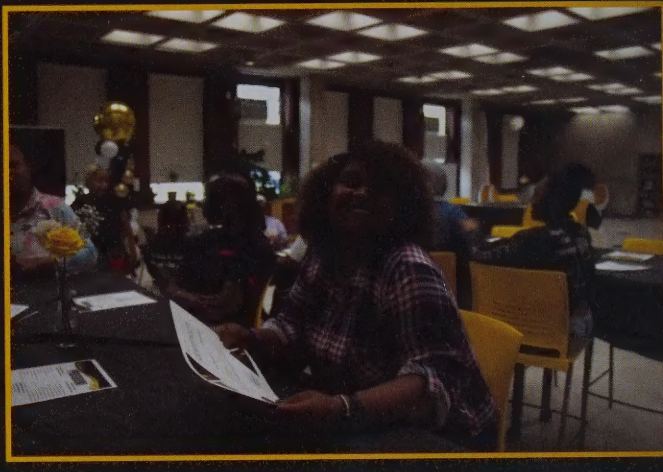


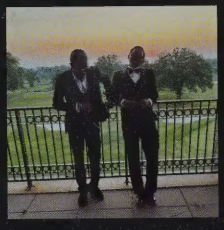


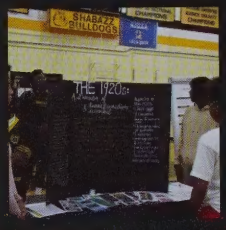


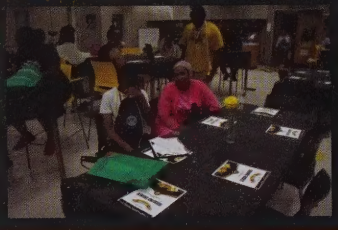




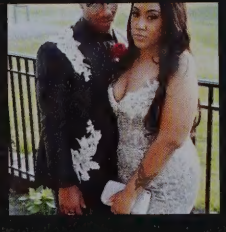


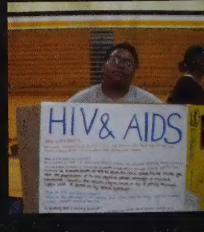


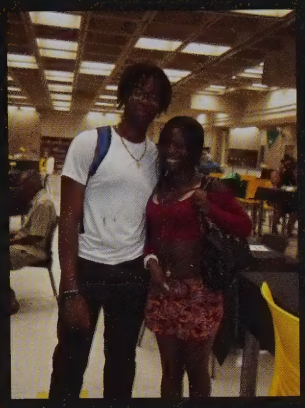


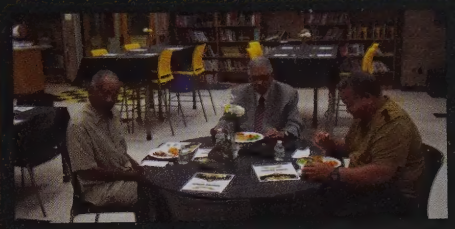


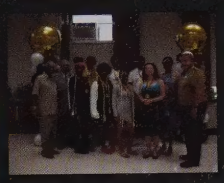
NEWS



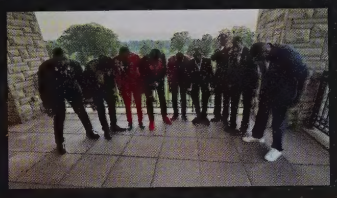

HIV& AIDS







STUDENT LIFE



Signatures

2024